

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 SP-02 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 FRB-03 COME-00 PRS-01 PA-01 EURE-00 SSO-00

INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 /066 W
----- 002485

O 041537Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3053

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EAGR, EEWT, PL

SUBJECT: CCC CREDITS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1977

REF: STATE 190926

1. TEXT OF SECRETARY BUTZ'S LETTER TO MINISTER
BARCIKOWSKI WAS DELIVERED BY CHARGE LATE
YESTERDAY AFTERNOON. ON PRESENTING LETTER,
CHARGE SAID HE WAS ACTING

ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM
WASHINGTON AND THAT IN ADDITION TO INFORMATION
CONVEYED IN TEXT, LETTER WAS INTENDED TO SIGNIFY
US COMMITMENT TO CONTINUED GOOD RELATIONS WITH
GOP. HE ADDED THAT THESE RELATIONS HAD PROVED
ESPECIALLY FRUITFUL IN ECONOMIC AND AGRICULTURAL
AREA AND USG HOPES THAT RECENT DOMESTIC DIFFICULTIES
WITHIN POLAND WOULD NOT ALTER PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED
DESIRE OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT
AND EXPANSION.

2. AFTER READING INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF LETTER,
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MINISTER BARCKOWSKI ASKED THAT SECRETARY BUTZ BE INFORMED

OF HIS PERSONAL APPRECIATION FOR THIS REASSURING INFORMATION ON CCC CREDITS AND, IN MORE GENERAL TERMS, FOR THE POSITIVE GESTURE REPRESENTED BY THIS LETTER. HE SAID THAT HE WAS SURE THAT THE EMBASSY AND THE US AUTHORITIES IN WASHINGTON WERE FULLY AWARE OF THE DIFFICULT PERIOD POLAND HAS JUST EXPERIENCED. ALTHOUGH HE IS CONFIDENT THAT PROBLEMS STILL LOOMING AHEAD WILL BE SURMOUNTED, THIS WILL NOT BE DONE WITHOUT SOME FURTHER TOUGH CHOICES. AGAIN, THIS REMINDER OF US SUPPORT IS MOST TIMELY.

3. THE CHARGE THEN ASKED FOR MINISTER BARCIKOWSKI'S ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT CROP AND FOOD PROSPECTS FOR POLAND. RECENT RAINS, THE MINISTER REPLIED, HAVE IMPROVED THE OUTLOOK FOR SUGAR BEETS AND POTATOES. ALTHOUGH YIELDS OF THE FORMER WILL BE DOWN SOME 30 PER CENT FROM LAST YEAR, SUPPLIES OF BOTH WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO MEET THE COUNTRY'S NEEDS. RAPE SEED YIELDS SHOULD REACH 19-20 QUINTALES PER HECTARE, WHILE FOOD GRAINS WILL RUN AROUND 26 QUINTALES PER HECTARE. ALTHOUGH TOTAL HARVESTS ARE STILL UNPREDICTABLE, AGRICULTURAL AUTHORITIES ARE ASSUMING THAT SOMETHING ON THE ORDER OF 5 TO 6 MILLION TONS OF GRAIN WILL HAVE TO BE IMPORTED. IN CONCLUSION, BARCIKOWSKI SAID THAT POLAND'S AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS VARY WITH THE COUNTRY'S GEOGRAPHY. THE SITUATION IS WORSE IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY AND IS MUCH BETTER IN THE EAST.

4. IN RESPONSE TO A DIRECT QUESTION, HE DENIED ANY PLANS TO IMPORT MEAT EITHER THIS YEAR OR NEXT. (COMMENT: THIS DIRECTLY CONTRADICTS WHAT PARTY SECRETARY FRELEK TOLD THE AMBASSADOR LAST WEEK. (WARSAW 5228). END COMMENT)

5. CHARGE'S CALL ON ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER TREPCZYNSKI TODAY REPORTED IN SEPTEL. BROWN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, CREDIT, AGRICULTURE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976WARSAW05442
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760300-0694
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760885/aaaacxld.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 190926
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <04 MAY 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CCC CREDITS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1977
TAGS: EFIN, EAGR, EEWT, PL, US, CCC-1
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006